

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 15

**Introduced by Assembly Members De Leon, Ammiano, and John
A. Perez**

April 20, 2009

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 15—Relative to the Uniting American Families Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 15, as introduced, De Leon. Uniting American Families Act.

This measure would urge the Congress of the United States to pass, and President Obama to sign, the Uniting American Families Act and support the removal of legal barriers to immigration by permanent same-sex partners.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Every American is entitled to equal protection
2 under the law; and
3 WHEREAS, Federal law does not currently recognize permanent
4 same-sex partners for immigration purposes; and
5 WHEREAS, This results in thousands of United States citizens
6 being forced into exile to be with foreign born partners, causing
7 unnecessary hardship, separation from family members and careers,
8 and loss of valuable skills and resources for our country; and
9 WHEREAS, The Uniting American Families Act has been
10 introduced in Congress by Senator Patrick Leahy and
11 Representative Jerrold Nadler to amend the Immigration and
12 Nationality Act and allow United States citizens and legal

1 permanent residents to sponsor same-sex partners for immigration;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The promotion of family unity should be an integral
4 part of our nation's immigration policy, and all Americans should
5 have the opportunity to be with their loved ones; now, therefore,
6 be it

7 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
8 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature and the State of California
9 urge the United States Congress to pass and President Barack
10 Obama to sign the Uniting American Families Act at the earliest
11 possible date and support the removal of legal barriers to
12 immigration by permanent same-sex partners; and be it further

13 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
14 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
15 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each
16 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
17 United States.